AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A service management method managing an application program made up of a combination of a plurality of functions by a computer, comprising the steps of:

checking usage conditions of said plurality of ~~the~~ functions to determine which functions have been used less than a predetermined number of times; and

making said computer carry out notification and promotion processing to promote a user to use a function from among the functions which have been determined to have been ~~which is~~ used less than a predetermined number of times.

2. (Original) The service management method as set forth in claim 1, wherein:

said predetermined number of times is set as not less than twice.

3. (Currently amended) A service management method managing an application program made up of a combination of a plurality of functions by a computer, comprising the steps of:

checking usage conditions of said plurality of ~~the~~ functions; ~~and~~

making said computer carry out processing to transmit a checking result to a service provider providing said application program to a user; and

receiving content, from said service provider, relating to a function which is used less than a predetermined number of times.

4. (Currently amended) The service management method as set forth in claim 3, ~~further comprising the steps of~~:

~~receiving~~ wherein said content is content of notification and promotion processing to promote a user to use ~~a~~ the function which is used less than a predetermined number of times, ~~which corresponds~~ corresponding to the usage conditions of the functions transmitted to said service provider, ~~from said service provider~~; and

wherein the method further comprises making said computer carry out the notification and promotion processing based on the content.

5. (Original) A service management method managing a software package made up of a combination of a plurality of functions including a function for carrying out processing to transmit/receive information via a network, by a computer, comprising the steps of:

receiving usage conditions of the functions of said software package from a device in which said software package is installed via the network; and

making said computer carry out processing to transmit a message for promoting use of a function which is indicated in the usage conditions as a function used less than a predetermined number of times, to said device.

6. (Currently amended) A service management method managing an application program made up of a combination of a plurality of functions by a computer, making said computer carry out the steps of:

detecting that a specific function is selected or performed; and

updating a management file which records usage conditions of said plurality of the functions so as to distinguish said detected function from an undetected function,

wherein, the functions are grouped into at least a first level and a second level, at least one function in the first level being associated with at least one function in the second level, and

the at least one function in the first level is identified as used only if all functions in the second level that are associated with the at least one function are identified as used.

7. (Original) The service management method as set forth in claim 6, further making said computer carry out the step of:

displaying data which includes at least either of data on a used function and data on an unused function described in said management file, on an activation screen of said application program.

8. (Original) The service management method as set forth in claim 6, further making said computer carry out the step of:

transmitting data which includes at least either of data on a used function and data on an

unused function described in said management file.

9. (Currently amended) A service management method managing an application program made up of a combination of a plurality of functions by a computer, making said computer carry out the steps of:

detecting that a specific function is selected or performed; and

writing number of detection of said detected function in a management file which records usage conditions of said plurality of the functions, wherein

the functions are grouped into at least a first level and a second level, at least one function in the first level being associated with at least one function in the second level, and

the at least one function in the first level is identified as used only if each function in the second level that is associated with the at least one function is detected a predetermined number of times.

10. (Original) The service management method as set forth in claim 9, further making said computer carry out the step of:

displaying data which includes at least either of data on a used function and data on an unused function described in said management file, on an activation screen of said application program.

11. (Original) The service management method as set forth in claim 9, further making said computer carry out the step of:

transmitting data which includes at least either of data on a used function and data on an unused function described in said management file.

12. (Currently amended) A service management program for managing an application program made up of a combination of a plurality of functions by a computer, provided for:

checking usage conditions of said plurality of ~~the~~ functions to determine which functions have been used less than a predetermined number of times; and

making said computer carry out notification and promotion processing to promote a user to use a function from among the functions which have been determined to have been ~~which is~~ used less than a predetermined number of times.

13. (Currently amended) A service management program for managing an application program made up of a combination of a plurality of functions by a computer, provided for:

checking usage conditions of said plurality of ~~the~~ functions; ~~and~~

making said computer carry out processing to transmit a checking result to a service provider providing said application program to a user; and

receiving content, from said service provider, relating to a function which is used less than a predetermined number of times.

14. (Original) A service management program for managing a software package made up of a combination of a plurality of functions including a function for carrying out processing to transmit/receive information via a network, by a computer, provided for:

receiving usage conditions of the functions of said software package from a device in which said software package is installed via the network; and

making said computer carry out processing to transmit a message for promoting use of a function which is indicated in the usage conditions as a function used less than a predetermined number of times, to said device.

15. (Currently amended) A service management program for managing an application program made up of a combination of a plurality of functions by a computer, provided for making said computer carry out the steps of:

detecting that a specific function is selected or performed; and

updating a management file which records usage conditions of said plurality of the functions so as to distinguish said detected function from an undetected function,

wherein, the functions are grouped into at least a first level and a second level, at least one function in the first level being associated with at least one function in the second level, and

the at least one function in the first level is identified as used only if all functions in the second level that are associated with the at least one function are identified as used.

16. (Currently amended) A service management program for managing an application program made up of a combination of a plurality of functions by a computer, provided for making said computer carry out the steps of:

detecting that a specific function is selected or performed; and

writing number of detection of said detected function in a management file which records usage conditions of said plurality of the functions, wherein

the functions are grouped into at least a first level and a second level, at least one function in the first level being associated with at least one function in the second level, and

the at least one function in the first level is identified as used only if each function in the second level that is associated with the at least one function is detected a predetermined number of times.

17. (Currently amended) A computer-readable information recording medium recording a service management program for managing an application program made up of a combination of a plurality of functions by a computer, recording said service management program provided for:

checking usage conditions of said plurality of ~~the~~ functions to determine which functions have been used less than a predetermined number of times; and making said computer carry out notification and promotion processing to promote a user to use a function from among the functions which have been determined to have been ~~which is~~ used less than a predetermined number of times.

18. (Currently amended) A computer-readable information recording medium recording a service management program for managing an application program made up of a combination of a plurality of functions by a computer, recording said service management program provided for:

checking usage conditions of said plurality of ~~the~~ functions; ~~and~~

making said computer carry out processing to transmit a checking result to a service

provider providing said application program to a user; and

receiving content, from said service provider, relating to a function which is used less than a predetermined number of times.

19. (Original) A computer-readable information recording medium recording a service management program for managing a software package made up of a combination of a plurality of functions including a function for carrying out processing to transmit/receive information via a network, by a computer, recording said service management program provided for:

receiving usage conditions of the functions of said software package from a device in which said software package is installed via the network; and

making said computer carry out processing to transmit a message for promoting use of a function which is indicated in the usage conditions as a function used less than a predetermined number of times, to said device.

20. (Currently amended) A computer-readable information recording medium recording a service management program for managing an application program made up of a combination of a plurality of functions by a computer, recording said service management program provided for making said computer carry out the steps of:

detecting that a specific function is selected or performed; and

updating a management file which records usage conditions of said plurality of the functions so as to distinguish said detected function from an undetected function,

wherein, the functions are grouped into at least a first level and a second level, at least one function in the first level being associated with at least one function in the second level, and

the at least one function in the first level is identified as used only if all functions in the second level that are associated with the at least one function are identified as used.

21. (Currently amended) A computer-readable information recording medium recording a service management program for managing an application program made up of a combination of a plurality of functions by a computer, recording said service management program provided for

making said computer carry out the steps of:

detecting that a specific function is selected or performed; and

writing number of detection of said detected function in a management file which records usage conditions of said plurality of the functions, wherein

the functions are grouped into at least a first level and a second level, at least one function in the first level being associated with at least one function in the second level, and

the at least one function in the first level is identified as used only if each function in the second level that is associated with the at least one function is detected a predetermined number of times.